

might be said elsewhere, he knew that "the certain persons whom he held in high esteem" had nothing to do with the affair.

On the other hand, some minor literary men adhered to the protest, and the incident was so sedulously exaggerated

by Zola's enemies that one might have imagined the manifesto had come from novelists of high reputation instead of from beginners, who, with the exception of Bonnetain, had not yet half-won their spurs. The affair has been related in some detail here, first because a kind of legend has gathered round it, a legend repeated in many of the memoirs issued after Zola's death, and secondly because it ultimately had a notable result: the nomination of Zola as a knight of the Legion of Honour.

Before recounting how that occurred it must be mentioned that "La Terre" was published in volume form late in 1887.¹ The attacks made upon it ever since the so-called "Manifesto of the Five" then acquired yet greater intensity, which a little later was checked somewhat by the uproar attending the decorations scandal in which President Grevy's son-in-law was implicated, followed by the President's resignation, the election of Carnot, and the increase of the Boulangist propaganda. However, at every pause in that turmoil the denunciation of Zola began

afresh.

It was still going on when M. Edmond Lockroy, who had known the novelist in the old days of "Le Eappel," became

¹ "L& Terre," Paris, Charpentier, 1887, 18mo, 519 pages. Some copies on Japan, Dutch, and India paper. One hundredth thousand in 1893; one tan*dred and thirty-fifth thousand in 1903. Illustrated edition : Marpon and Fltmaancm, n. d., large 8vo, 472 pages ; wood-engravings after Duez, ^^egro^ etc.; one hundred and fifty copies on Dutch paper with tho engravings on India paper.